



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

News Release

News Release 07-14MA

Date: Feb. 26, 2007

Contact: Public Affairs

Phone: (509) 527-7020

Media invited to interview Corps planners, technical team at public meeting Tuesday

MEDIA ADVISORY: News outlets will have an opportunity to obtain interviews with Corps planners and subject-matter experts about the Programmatic Sediment Management Plan on Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 3-3:30 p.m. at the public scoping meeting, in the 5th Avenue Suites Hotel located at 506 S.W. Washington Street., in Portland, Ore. Please, call the Public Affairs Office, (509) 527-7020, if you have any questions.

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Interview Opportunity 3-3:30 p.m.



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News Release 07-08

Date: Feb. 13, 2007

Contact: Public Affairs

Phone: (509) 527-7020

Sediment management meetings scheduled

Walla Walla, Wash. – The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold four public scoping meetings in Idaho, Oregon and Washington to receive input on a long-term sediment management program for the lower Snake River and its tributaries.

The meetings are scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 15, at the Quality Inn in Clarkston, Wash.; Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Boise, Idaho; Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Best Western Rama Inn and Suites in La Grande, Ore.; and Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the 5th Avenue Suites Hotel in Portland, Ore. All four events will offer an open house from 1-5 p.m., and the scoping meeting will be held 7-9 p.m.

The Corps is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Programmatic Sediment Management Plan to address sediment management within the lower Snake River, including the four reservoirs managed by the Corps. The plan will identify and evaluate ways the Corps can manage sediment within these reservoirs, and examine sediment sources on a programmatic basis in the near-term, mid-term, and long-term. The reservoirs extend from the mouth of the Snake River upstream to the communities of Clarkston, Wash., and Lewiston, Idaho. The study itself will also include all tributaries that could significantly contribute sediment to the lower Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam.

Since construction of its first dam on the lower Snake River, the Corps has recognized that sediment management would be an ongoing maintenance issue within the reservoirs. Historically, the Corps has used dredging as the primary means of managing sediment deposited in areas that interfere with man's use of the river. Most of these maintenance dredging actions have been conducted on a case-by-case basis without a long-term look at more effective ways of managing sediment. The Corps determined it would be beneficial to evaluate sediment management within the lower Snake River on a watershed scale, evaluating the potential for reducing sediment input rather than focusing only on the reservoirs.

The intent of the plan is to identify ways to reduce the amount of sediment entering the reservoirs; how to manage the sediment once it enters the reservoirs; and possible changes to structures or operations to reduce maintenance and associated impacts, while still providing authorized project purposes, including navigation.

For more information regarding the sediment management plan or the public scoping meetings please contact Carl Christianson, project manager, at (509) 527-7240; or Sandra Simmons, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, at (509) 527-7265.

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**Reference Walla Walla District
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Public Affairs Office, Walla Walla District Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 201 N. Third Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

Phone (509) 527-7020 FAX (509) 527-7824

Website: www.nww.usace.army.mil

E-mail: cenww-pa@usace.army.mil